

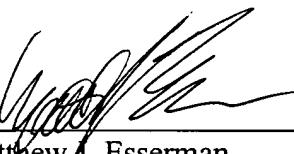
**REMARKS**

Claim 8 has been canceled. Claim 1 has been amended. Claims 46-50 have been newly added. Claims 1-7 and 9-50 are therefore pending. It should be noted that original claim 8 has been rewritten in independent form by incorporating the limitations into claim 1. It should also be noted that original claims 10, 13, 16, 17, and 33 have been rewritten in independent form as newly added claims 46-50, respectively.

The Applicant appreciates the indication by the Examiner of the allowable subject matter of claims 8, 10-28, and 30-39.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, it is respectfully submitted that pending independent claims 1 and 46-50 are in condition for allowance. In addition, it is respectfully submitted that the remaining claims are allowable, because such claims depend from an allowable base claim. Reconsideration and further examination of the present application is therefore requested, and a notice of allowance is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,



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